

# THE

A Publication of Balmoral Hall School

Volume 20 Number 1 Spring 2008

# PORTAL



**Yes She Can!**  
Madeleine Albright  
receives BH Award

Girls for the Cure

Seussical Jr.

Destination: Africa!

Celebrating 20 Years of *The Portal*

# THE PORTAL

A Publication of Balmoral Hall School

Volume 20 Number 1 Spring 2008

Balmoral Hall School, a university preparatory school, educates, encourages and empowers young women who excel academically, possess a passion for learning, set high standards for personal achievement, and who will be self-confident leaders of tomorrow.

The Portal, a publication of Balmoral Hall School's Advancement Office, is distributed to over 4000 members of the BH Family—parents, alumnae, grandparents, staff, parents of alumnae, former staff and friends of the School.

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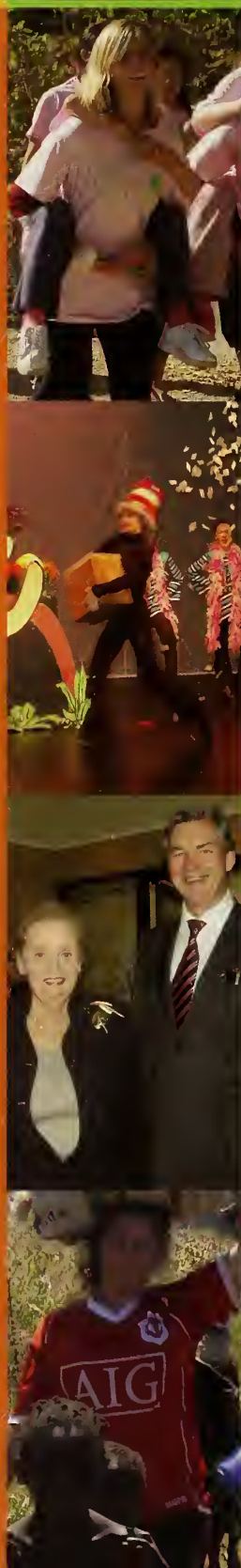
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# Lake of the Woods Get Together

Save the Date! Following in the footsteps of last year's success, gather your friends & family and join us for our 2nd annual Lake of the Woods Get Together.

Thursday, July 31, 2008  
Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club  
Afternoon Luncheon

For more information please contact Ginny Lecluman '98  
in the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603  
or [alumnae@balmorallhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmorallhall.com)



## Head of School Message





# —20 Years of THE PORTAL

This issue of *The Portal* celebrates 20 years since its first publication. Twenty years recording the beliefs and achievements of our school, our students and our alumnae.

Looking back over the past issues I was amazed at the successes recorded over the years and surprised by the reality that many of them could not possibly have been envisioned at its first publication. This same reality is faced by educators each and every day. In today's global community, how do we prepare today's students for the unknown challenges and opportunities that await them? The answer lies in our school motto, *Meliora Petens—Seeking Better Things*.

At BH, we believe a true global citizen is culturally sensitive and engaged with her peers, her community and the world around her. A life-long learner, who embraces creative and critical thinking, she is confident and achievement oriented and uses technology to advance her learning. A nurturer of herself and others, she is outraged by injustice. Her broad understanding of the complexity of world issues contributes to her willingness to act with caring, compassion and a highly developed sense of responsibility. This year's "Yes She Can" Award recipient, Dr. Madeleine K. Albright, former US Secretary of State, embodies many of the characteristics we strive to develop in our students. What a privilege for our community to have had the chance to meet Dr. Albright and see for themselves that when you are committed to making positive change, you can achieve great things. You will find out more about the achievements of this amazing global citizen in the pages that follow.

Excellence: Believe. Achieve. Succeed. Four words that simply, yet eloquently convey the commitment we have made to ensure Balmoral Hall School (BH) students are well prepared to assume their leadership roles as global citizens. We believe it is imperative for our students to be committed to making a difference—not just in our local community, but also in the broader community outside our borders. At BH, making a difference is an active process. We use global issues—human rights, peace, poverty and the environment—to provide the real life, real world context that empowers our students with the knowledge that it is possible to move complex ideas forward when the vision is shared. BH graduate, Jane Polak Scowcroft '03, recently profiled in the *Globe and Mail's* top 100 females to watch, credits her years at BH with helping her develop a global mindset. A computer engineering student at the University



of Manitoba, Jane spent 4 months in Tanzania with Engineers Without Borders, helping remote villagers adopt technology that would improve their daily lives. Graduating this spring, she will continue to combine her love of science with a passion for international affairs.

At BH, we are committed to developing the whole student—mind, body and attitude. Our continuing efforts to diversify our student population provide our students with many opportunities to deepen their respect for others. Our safe, yet open school environment ensures even one negative experience with bullying is a cause for concern and action. With our rigorous, internationally recognized programs in academics, athletics and the arts, BH continues to demonstrate, rather than merely enunciate, the value of a well-rounded education. As our graduates prepare for their exciting futures beyond our doors, they are supported and encouraged by a program that has been carefully and strategically structured to offer the very best practices in learning for girls and young women. BH has evolved from a school planning for excellence, to one confidently delivering it.

This edition of *The Portal* celebrates our 20th anniversary of bringing into your home the great stories that we celebrate each and every day. The achievements you will find in the following pages are a true testament of the BH commitment to believe in ourselves, to achieve our best and to succeed each and every day. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions about BH, our program and our plans for the future.



# Talented Authors Share Their Experiences with Students



Balmoral Hall School was fortunate to have two special author visits at the beginning of the school year. On September 26, 2007, author/illustrator Marie-Louise Gay delighted Junior Kindergarten to Grade 4 students with her art, humour and imagination. She shared with students how she comes up with ideas for books as well as drawings. We were most fortunate to have this wonderful Canadian talent at our school.

On October 3, 2007, broadcast journalist for CBC Radio and Television and award-winning author Nancy Russell shared her writing experiences with many of the girls in Middle School. Her latest books, *So Long, Jackie Robinson* and *Rink of Dreams*, focus on sports, but also deal with relationships and ethical choices. Nancy was a wonderful role model for our students and we thank her for joining us at BH.



Marie-Louise Gay, author/illustrator and winner of numerous awards including multiple Governor General Awards, delighted students in Junior School with her presentation in September 2007.



Author and broadcast journalist Nancy Russell shared her writing experiences with Middle School students in October 2007.





# BH Students Debate Their Way to Success!



Many students in Middle and Senior School have been dedicating numerous hours to perfecting their debating skills. As a result, they have been doing very well in various local and international competitions.

The International Independent School's Public Speaking Competition was held in Reading, England this year and provided the girls from Balmoral Hall School with an opportunity that proved to be most rewarding. Grade 12 students Shanleigh Thomson, Victoria Schaeffer and Grace Boyd were selected to represent the School and they certainly made BH proud. Events ranged from persuasive speeches, to news broadcasts to parliamentary debates, all proving to be very challenging and entertaining.

The debating team consisting of Ariana Meyers, Talia Glodjo, Sola Han, Christa Lee, and Izzy Anderson-Gregoire had the opportunity to practice some of their French at the McGill tournament in Montreal, "Mais oui"? The girls worked very hard preparing for this tournament on a very challenging resolution. They participated in five matches with schools from across the country. Their performances were most commendable, and once again they represented Balmoral Hall School in a way that would make us all proud.

Two very excellent teams consisting of Ariana Meyers, Talia Glodjo, Victoria Schaeffer, and Julie Clark participated in the Asper Cup held at Gray Academy in Winnipeg in December 2007. It was a challenging tournament hosting students from Western Canada and Israel. Congratulations to Ariana Meyers for placing 10th and Talia Glodjo and Ariana Meyers for placing 8th as a team.

Congratulations to the Senior Debating team of Talia Glodjo and Ariana Meyers who qualified for the National Championships in Calgary, Alberta which will be held April 11 to 14.

The Junior girls competed in Winnipeg at St. John's-Ravenscourt School in December 2007. BH was once again well represented with a total of 6 teams. The girls competing were: Kamal Dhillon, Kirsten Nicholson, Jaclyn Flom, Alanna Flom, Kaitlyn Scott, Hayley Stacey, Eva Downey, Meredith Chiu, Talia Smith, Emily Steele, Ella Thomson, and Nicole Van Hove.

We are very proud of the girls and the tremendous effort that they put forth in all these competitions.

by: Rhonda Smith, English and Debating Teacher



*Junior Debaters represented Balmoral Hall School at a recent debating tournament at St. John's-Ravenscourt School.*



*Grace Boyd, Victoria Schaeffer and Shanleigh Thomson travelled to Reading, England with Mrs. Rhonda Smith to participate in the International Independent School's Public Speaking Competition.*



# Learning to Become Engaged and Independent Learners



## Middle School Introduces the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

by: Donna Alexander, IB MYP Team Leader, University Guidance

Beginning in the fall of 2008, Balmoral Hall School will be applying to become an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) school. This program is designed for students aged 11 to 16, and will accept students from Grade 6 to 10. The MYP focus on engaging students in active and holistic learning is the perfect match for these critical years of substantial growth and development. Learning how to learn and think critically has been a consistent focus at Balmoral Hall School and extending the IB programme from the primary years to the Middle School is the logical next step.

We have noticed the success that our Junior School is having with the IB Primary Years Programme and the inquiry method. We would like to combine that focus on inquiry with the critical thinking, essential questions and study skills in the middle years. We know that students learn best when they are actively engaged in their learning, and this year as I pilot the program, I have been so impressed with the effort and achievement that students are demonstrating.

Balmoral Hall School will continue to follow the Manitoba provincial curriculum, but will use the MYP to extend units of inquiry and challenge students through five areas of interaction: approaches to learning, community and service, *homo faber* (human creativity), environment, and health and social education. As the Middle Years Coordinator at Balmoral Hall School and the university advisor, I see a

perfect fit with this new programme and our existing MERIT Portfolio system. The MYP perspective asks the student to consider issues and problems and to realize that good solutions are complex and time-consuming. This program will encourage our students to become more globally aware and action-oriented.

Two other aspects of the programme also extend the existing direction of the School: the focus on study skills and learning styles, and the focus on using assessment to advance student learning. Within the MYP, the expectation is that each classroom and subject has dedicated time for developing academic discipline: problem solving, decision making and acquiring attitudes and strategies that lead to success. Secondly, the use of rubrics helps students to evaluate their own learning and to understand what quality work looks like. Formative assessment is used to provide students and teachers with feedback on what areas or skills have been acquired and which are still developing. Summative assessment will reveal to what degree the student has mastered the stated objectives for a particular unit of the program, subject and grade.

This year we have begun the training necessary for MYP certification. Ms. Karina Smith (Math), Mrs. Anita Moeller (English) along with myself as coordinator and Ms. Claire Sumerlus (Head of School) and Mrs. Jackie Copp (Head of Academic Studies) have attended the IB workshops. Next year, the French, Humanities, Science and Technology teachers will be trained. Our initial application will be registered this year and in the fall our teachers will begin to implement the program, using the assessment models, planning for cross-curricular projects and ensuring our students learn to become engaged and independent learners.





## Using Classroom Assessment to Maximize Student Learning

by: Jackie Copp, Head of Academic Studies

Balmoral Hall School is completing its last cycle of curriculum refinement in working towards the final goals of our Strategic Plan. Over the last four years we have researched and further developed our Balmoral Hall School curriculum, had professional development to help implement best practices, and now our focus is on assessment and adjustment in our classroom practices.

Classroom assessment plays an important role in connecting curriculum, instruction and learning, and enables teachers and students to measure how well they are doing in attaining the learning outcomes. With the support of the Board of Governors and Parent Association, we have been working with Damian Cooper, a well known consultant in Canada, to refine our classroom assessment techniques in using evidence to assess and evaluate the desired learning for our students. This includes:

**Assessed Curriculum:** Assessments, formative and summative, are designed to measure student learning of our BH curriculum. The results of these assessments are used by the teacher to modify instruction to meet student strengths, needs and interests.

**Formative Assessment (Assessment for Learning)**  
Assessment for learning promotes ongoing student growth. It includes the frequent assessments that measure students' knowledge or ability regarding a specific concept/skill, and allows a teacher and student together, to identify each students' strengths and weaknesses. Teachers use formative assessment as a teaching tool to guide future instruction.

**Summative Assessment (Assessment of Learning)**  
Assessment of learning provides a snapshot of what a

student knows at a given point in time. It is often used to report achievement status to others. It is often an assessment that measures students' knowledge or ability at the conclusion of a unit or an end of a course of study.

### Junior School

#### Girls Can Read Beyond Benchmark Goals!

Junior School has been recognized for developing early literacy skills with girls beginning in Junior Kindergarten. The assessment/learning reading program is specifically designed for each girl and works on the "Big Ideas of Early Literacy", including Phonological Awareness, Alphabetic Principle, and Fluency with Connected Text.

### Middle School

#### Active Student Engagement with Interactive Learning!

"Assessment for Learning" has become a big part of the learning process for the girls in Middle School. The girls have been focusing on using knowledge, strategies and habits of mind to pursue learning and critical thinking. Portfolio assessment has taken on a new focus with e-learning as students are developing interactive thoughtful notebooks in math.

### Senior School

#### Reflective Young Women become Lifelong Learners!

Students are using more self-assessment with an emphasis on defining the criteria of quality work, developing personal and collaborative skills, and gaining an understanding of career planning that allows them to make thoughtful course selection. With the Science Chair and teachers working together, the girls are identifying, investigating and pursuing their interest in science in dynamic lab experiences.





## High School Hockey Blazes a Trail During First Year in the League

The Blazers High School Hockey team is achieving great success in its first year in the Winnipeg Women's High School Hockey League (WWHSHL). As of January 2008, the team is tied for 1st place in the CKY Winnipeg Division with an undefeated record of 9 wins and 2 ties.

The Blazers have been hard at work since the beginning of September practicing on the ice with coaches Andrea Keating and Jared Cook as well as in the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre for dryland training with Physical Education Teacher Darlene Sveinson. The team has developed a strong defensive game backed by excellent goaltending, allowing only 6 goals against in 11 games (6 shutouts). Several players also stand near the top of the divisions points standings for goals and assists.

### Four Blazers Selected as All-Stars

Balmoral Hall School would like to congratulate High School Hockey players Katrina Hoffmann, Emily McKnight, Michelle Rebeck and Erika Thunder, who were selected to their respective WWHSHL Junior and Varsity All-Star Teams.



### Blazing a Trail to Canada's National Women's U-18 Team

Congratulations to BH Prep Hockey player Bailey Bram for earning a spot on Canada's national women's under-18 hockey team. Bailey and her team competed in the 2008 IIHF World Women's Under-18 Championship January 7-12, 2008 in Calgary taking home a silver medal.

### Prep Team Continues to be Tough Competition

The Blazers Prep Hockey Team continued their winning streak this year playing against teams from all over Canada and the United States. As of February 28, 2008 the girls have a 36W-5T-10L record competing against teams such as Walser, Manitoba Senior Ladies Provincial Team, Minnesota Thoroughbreds, Athol Murray College of Notre Dame and Shattuck-St. Mary's.

In February 2008, an invitation saw the Prep Team travelling to Washington to play in the heavily scouted Challenge Cup. The Blazers program made a significant step towards being recognized as one of the top 4 teams in North American Prep Hockey as they concluded round robin play undefeated and second in their pool. They eventually ended up in 4th place ahead of the Warner Warriors, Washington Pride, Chicago Mission and Dawson College.





*9 teams from across Western Canada including approximately 95 athletes and their coaching staff attended the 36th Annual Western Canadian Independent Schools' Volleyball Championship hosted by Balmoral Hall School.*

## BH Hosts the 36th Annual Western Canadian Independent Schools' Volleyball Championship

by: Lisa Moore, Physical Education Department

Balmoral Hall School was proud to host the Western Canadian Independent Schools' Volleyball Championship October 17-20, 2007. This tournament provides female athletes with an exceptional opportunity to develop their skills in a competitive atmosphere. The Championship promotes a relationship between the Western Canadian Independent Schools and has been very successful in building this camaraderie by hosting a social function and banquet for the athletes as well as having the athletes billeted with students from the host school.

At the tournament this year, BH hosted 9 teams representing approximately 95 athletes and their coaching staff. On October 18, Opening Ceremonies kicked off the tournament and each school did a wonderful job displaying their school spirit. Later that evening, six players from Team Canada led a training session which gave athletes feedback on their skills. On October 19, the round robin play was completed and a Banquet and Awards Ceremony was held in the Carolyn Sifton Atrium at the School. Tara Smart, a Team Canada player was the Guest Speaker for the evening and spoke of the hard work and determination it takes to be successful. She discussed the disappointments that may arise and how important it is to deal with these and move on in order to be triumphant.

Most Valuable Player awards were given out by each team, as well as trophies for athletes that displayed talent in a specific volleyball skill. In order to celebrate the many athletes that were skillful, honourable mentions were also named. Grade 12 student Robyn Zajac was the award winner for Best Server at the tournament. Robyn was also fortunate to win her team's Most Valuable Player award.



The Spirit Trophy, which is always awarded to a team after round robin play was awarded to Rundle College from Calgary, Alberta. On Saturday, October 20 the Playoff matches were played. Congratulations to Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School, from Okotoks, Alberta who won the Spartan Cup.

Thank you to the coaches, athletes, parents, officials and volunteers for all their hard work and preparation for this event. Balmoral Hall School would also like to show gratitude to the host families for their kindness in billeting athletes.

### Junior Varsity Volleyball

This year, Balmoral Hall School was fortunate to have two Junior Varsity Volleyball teams, one team comprised of Grade 9 and 10 students and the other of only Grade 10 students.

The Grade 10 team was very successful in their season and finished with a perfect record in Zone 12 league play. This team also participated in many tournaments and came home with 3 first place trophies. Unfortunately, in the final playoff game for the Zone Banner the team lost in 5 sets to Linden Christian School with a score of 17-15. The team was very disappointed by their loss as they could not attend Provincials.

This team will be a great team to take to the Western Canadian Independent Schools' Championship next year and will be aiming to win a banner for the School and represent our Zone at Provincials in 2008.

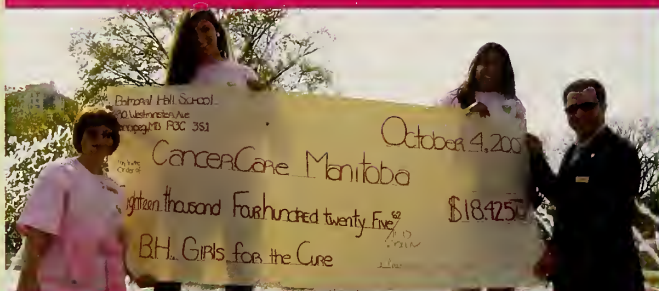




# Girls for the Cure



Members of the Chemo Savvy Dragon Boat Team provide a paddle arch for members of the BH Family to run through during the annual Girls for the Cure Walk/Run.



Balmoral Hall School was pleased to provide a cheque to CancerCare Manitoba totalling over \$19,000.



Members of the SWAT Team demonstrate the limitations of a smoker's lung.



On October 4, 2007, Balmoral Hall School hosted the 7th annual Girls for the Cure Walk/Run in support of women's cancer. The day began with students in Middle and Senior School attending presentations by SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco). The SWAT team showed students which chemicals make up cigarettes, compared smokers lungs to non-smokers lungs, got students to participate in activities that simulated what emphysema can feel like and encouraged discussion about how tobacco companies lure children into smoking. The presentations provided eye-opening information to our students.

In the afternoon, students were paired with buddies and warmed up in the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre. They then exited the School through a paddle arch provided by the Chemo Savvy Dragon Boat team. From BH, students made their way to The Forks, stopping on the way back at the Legislative Grounds for cookies, entertainment and a cheque presentation to CancerCare Manitoba. Before students returned to BH, they were all generously provided with a "hope bear" by Diane Frost who is a BH grandparent. Visit [www.trekthehopebear.ca](http://www.trekthehopebear.ca) for more information on hope bears.

Balmoral Hall School is pleased to announce that we raised over \$19,000 towards women's cancer, bringing our 7 year total to \$103,000. Thank you to everyone who participated in this special day! A special thank you to our generous sponsors: CancerCare Manitoba, Sodexho, Arctic Glacier and Quintex.





REACHING FOR  
EXCELLENCE



# Balmoral Hall School

## 2007-2008 Annual Fund

Excellence and innovation in education depends on your support. Your gift, regardless of size, has the power to inspire and influence others in their own giving and makes possible projects that simply could not happen without the support of the Annual Fund.

# Donation Form

I am pleased to participate in the 2007-08 Annual Fund with a pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to contribute by: ☐ cheque ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

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Please mail your cheque (payable to Balmoral Hall School) to:

**Balmoral Hall School**  
**630 Westminster Avenue,**  
**Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 3S1**

## Be an Online Donor

Easy and secure, online donations can be made at [www.balmoralhall.com/onlinegiving.htm](http://www.balmoralhall.com/onlinegiving.htm)

If you prefer giving your credit card information by phone, we welcome your call at

**(204) 784-1615 or 1-866-DREAM11.**







## BH Family Gives Back to the Winnipeg Community

Members of the BH Family joined together on December 20, 2007 to participate in our annual Day of Giving. Students in Junior School collected socks for their "sock tree" as well as non-perishable food items and books. They also participated in a holiday party held at BH with students from Mulvey School which is located nearby on Wolseley Avenue.

Middle School students worked diligently all morning to produce care packages for the residents of Misericordia Place. In the afternoon, they walked to Misericordia Place where they distributed the gifts to residents and sang carols and holiday songs.

Senior School students were able to choose between helping at BH with our party for the children of Mulvey School, or going out to the community to volunteer. Various locations benefited from our volunteers including Winnipeg Harvest and the Siloam Mission.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped to make this day special. The response we received from the community was very positive.

1

*Middle School students create care packages for the residents of Misericordia Place.*

2

*Students from Mulvey School and BH Junior School proudly display the crafts they created at the holiday party.*

3

*Senior School students clean and sort footwear for Winnipeg's less fortunate at Siloam Mission.*

4

*Middle School students work to create food care packages at Winnipeg Harvest.*





# Seussical Jr.

On November 21 and 22, 2007, the entire Middle School body delighted audiences with their magical performance of *Seussical Jr.* This production, an abridged adaptation of the Broadway hit *Seussical the Musical*, was packed with upbeat songs and dance numbers. It was a real treat for Dr. Seuss fans of all ages and included all the favourite Seuss characters.

Congratulations to our Middle School students for their hard work and to the Performing Arts Department for the many hours dedicated to producing such a wonderful show!





# Balmoral Hall School Raises the Barre

by: Robin Dow, Performing Arts Department

Can you name the only independent school in Manitoba that offers a dance program from Nursery to Grade 12? If you answered "Balmoral Hall School" then you are correct!

Our Junior School has taken a major step forward in the world of arts education by implementing ballet classes into the weekly timetable. It took a few weeks to master the routine of changing into dance clothes, but now it is a common sight to see leotard-clad groups of girls flitting their way to the dance studio.

Ballet is a pure art form that is the foundation for many other dance disciplines. It meets the demand for increased physical activity in school and our students have noticed that ballet's attention to posture and flexibility are benefitting them in their sports activities as well. Best of all, students are discovering the joy of dance.

Balmoral Hall School is following the Royal Academy of Dance Syllabus, which is recognized internationally. Headquartered in London, England, this comprehensive syllabus includes character (similar to folk dance) and free movement, and encourages musicality and artistic expression. An additional advantage of this teaching system is that it perfectly complements the jazz syllabus taught in Middle and Senior School.

The Performing Arts Department is proud to have added this integral piece to the curriculum. Starting with a strong base of ballet technique from Nursery to Grade 5, students in Middle School then have the opportunity to kick it up a bit when they take jazz dance as part of their Performing Arts classes. In Grades 9 to 12, students can choose dance as an option and study this dynamic art form quite intensively. For the girls who can't get enough dance, there is the Academy of Excellence/Arts Academy which runs after school and offers more specialized classes such as hip hop, tap, jazz styles, ballet presentation, and Highland.

Balmoral Hall School is a truly innovative school that has a great deal to offer in the world of dance education.





*Mr. James Morden, Chair of the Board of Governors, Dr. Madeleine Albright, Mr. Hartley Richardson and Claire Sumerlus, Head of Balmoral Hall School.*



*Members of the Balmoral Hall School Quartet sang the Canadian and American National Anthems at the Yes She Can Award Dinner.*



*Mr. Hartley Richardson, Dr. Madeleine Albright, The Hon. Premier Gary Doer and Dr. Lloyd Axworthy at the reception prior to the award dinner.*



# Balmoral Hall School Recognizes **Dr. Madeleine K. Albright** 2007 Yes She Can Award Recipient

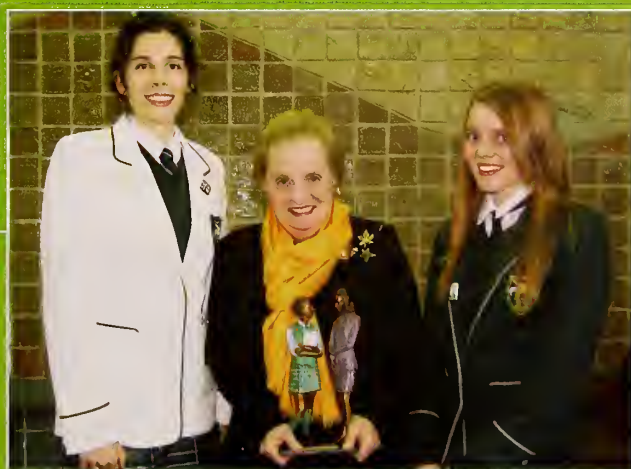
On October 30, 2007, Balmoral Hall School and 600 guests celebrated the achievements of Dr. Madeleine K. Albright, 64th Secretary of State of the United States at the Yes She Can Award Dinner, which recognizes an exceptional woman who has gained international prominence in her career.



Prior to the evening ceremony, Dr. Albright visited BH and our Senior School students had a once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in a question and answer session with one of the world's great leaders. She outlined her career highs and lows and attributed her success to believing that you can achieve anything as long as you are willing to work hard.

Both in her address to the students and again to the 600 guests gathered that evening, Dr. Albright shared intimate stories of her life and career. Part of the silent generation, she acknowledged that their education was more about being groomed for marriage, becoming fascinating wives and raising successful children. No longer content to take a back seat to their husbands, this generation was in transition, wanting to be judged as individuals. Never dreaming she could become the US Secretary of State—as she had never seen one in a skirt—she felt an obligation to do as much as and more than her predecessors. Today she continues in her fight against poverty, gender discrimination and the devaluation of women, issues she recognizes as global problems deserving a global response. The simple truth she states, is that every individual counts and every voice needs to speak up for freedom, tolerance, human rights and peace.

In his introduction, Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, former Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister and President of the University of Winnipeg, recognized Dr. Albright as a woman “dedicated to making the world a better place”. That evening she challenged us all to join her.



*Dr. Madeleine Albright holding the Yes She Can award accompanied by Shanleigh Thomson, Head Girl and Bridget Bicknell, Middle School Head Girl.*



*Congratulations to Julie Clark, winner of the Youth Photo Challenge as part of the Human Rights Youth Conference for her photo "One and the Same".*

## Grade 11 Student's Photo Receives Recognition at the Human Rights Youth Conference

Congratulations to Julie Clark, Grade 11 student, winner of the Youth Photo Challenge which was part of the Human Rights Youth Conference. Along with four other BH students, Julie attended the Human Rights Conference at the University of Winnipeg and took part in a variety of lectures.

During the lunch hour, she received an award for her photo entitled "One and the Same" of Tristin Stothers and Ericka Rankin-Friesen. Julie states "My inspiration came from a simple hug. I felt in that moment that I was safe, that the love from that hug was unbreakable. The heads show that there is a unity between the two, a trust and an unbreakable sense of belonging. The racial differences show that no matter what someone's skin tone is, there is always room for acceptance and room for the love of another person. The photo shows that within this world the best thing to do is accept each other and embrace each other."

Julie's photo was also on display in Ottawa for the National Sense of Belonging Conference held at the end of February 2008. People from across the country were able to see, admire and converse about Julie's work.



## Grade 12 Student Receives the Sybil Shack Memorial Award

Grade 12 student Krupa Kotecha was the recent recipient of the 2007 Sybil Shack Memorial Human Rights Youth Award. Krupa has dedicated numerous hours to promoting anti-racism in the halls of Balmoral Hall School and our community. Krupa helped to produce and act in a short video which won the

national "Racism—Stop It" competition. She also wrote and performed a play about the prejudice faced by a teenaged Indian immigrant and wrote an essay about barriers to equality faced by minority groups. Krupa received her award at a luncheon on December 10, 2007, International Human Rights Day.

## Grade 12 Student Loran National Finalist

Congratulations to Krupa Kotecha who was a national finalist for the prestigious Loran Award. Awarded to 30 students annually, the Loran Award is open to every graduating high school student from coast to coast. Krupa was chosen as one of the national finalists and travelled to the national competition held in Toronto February 8 & 9, 2008. Being a finalist comes with a \$3,000 scholarship. The selection process is designed to identify young people of exceptional overall promise.





## Expanding Campus Builds Our Global Community

The opportunity to live in residence has always been an important part of the BH experience—both for boarders and day students. It plays a critical role in attracting rural students from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. During the war it was home to young girls from England and today it continues to act as a strong recruitment vehicle for international students. The presence of a diverse student body living, studying and socializing together helps form young global citizens—all of whom bring a different, but equal, perspective to life at Balmoral Hall School.

Over the years, the School has expanded its residence a number of times to meet increased demand. Aikins House, now a designated heritage site, originally served as the residence and was followed by Dalton House until 1986 when the Gar-Neil apartments were purchased. Today these apartments accommodate 50 students (from Grades 6–12) in 22 apartment units. The Gar-Neil apartments were fully re-furnished in 2001 however with space for only 50 students, the School finds itself turning away deserving young women.

We feel so strongly about our ability to offer a superior learning environment for our students that we are continuing to invest in the local community surrounding the school. In July of 2007, Balmoral Hall School made a commitment to expand its boarding program by purchasing two apartment buildings on Langside Street, directly across the street from the current residence. After careful review and analysis, including the development of a strong business plan, the School committed to this critically needed initiative for three reasons:

1. Expansion will allow us to consolidate some activities and add critically needed classroom space for our Visual Arts Program.
2. Expansion will also allow us to further strengthen our financial resources by becoming more cost-efficient and strategically using additional residence fees to support school programs.

3. Residence expansion will allow BH to diversify our community not only by increasing international opportunities but also by attracting students from rural and Aboriginal communities so that we might better reflect the face of Manitoba.

These two buildings, once renovated, will add 15 students in the short-term and eventually allow the School to house up to 80 boarders—a 60% increase which will significantly strengthen the School's financial resources and further support over-all school programs. Our goal is to have the buildings fully funded and ready to receive students by September 2009.

The purchase of #34 and #38 Langside is part of our long-term plans to ensure we have the flexibility we need to help the School grow to meet the demands of the future. To off-set purchase costs, the existing apartment buildings remain rented to current tenants while the School seeks support for the purchase and to complete minor renovations to bring the buildings in line with its present residence program. As with the Gar-Neil apartments, students will live in spacious individual apartments each with private bathroom facilities, wireless service, shared kitchen and common space. Girls will continue having their meals together in the BH dining hall.







## Largest Planned Gift to Balmoral Hall School

### Bicknell Family Plans for the School's Future

Three current students have recently arranged for a planned gift that makes them the largest individual donors in the School's history. Together, they have created a planned gift valued at \$450,000 to build future support for the BH endowment.

Sydney (Grade 10), Bridget (Grade 8) and Audrey (Grade 4) Bicknell all started at BH in Junior School. They love their school and realize how lucky they are to benefit from the BH experience. They want to make sure that the School will have the ability in the future to provide all deserving girls an opportunity to attend, regardless of their financial circumstances.

To achieve this, they are each funding a life insurance policy that will one day provide support for scholarships and financial aid. Their parents, Ken and Laurie Bicknell are finding it a very rewarding way of making a significant future gift to Balmoral Hall School, while realizing tax credits that can be used now.

Tina Alto, Director of Advancement met with the Bicknell family and spoke with the girls to ensure they were comfortable with this creative planned gift. When asked about the impact this donation will have on the future of the School, Sydney Bicknell told us, "I think it is pretty cool that my sisters and I can be part of building a fund that will one day make it possible for other girls to attend Balmoral Hall School."

To date, this is the largest individual planned gift that the School is aware of. Using the school motto *Meliora Petens*, Latin for "Seeking Better Things", a special Legacy Society was created. All planned gifts to Balmoral Hall School are recognized in the *Meliora Petens* Legacy Society.

Thank you to the entire Bicknell family for their leadership and vision in providing for the future of Balmoral Hall School. Should you wish more information about how to make a planned gift, please contact Tina Alto, Director of Advancement at (204) 784-1614.

### How Do 10 Annual Gifts of \$2,400 Turn Into a \$450,000 Legacy?

A gift of Life Insurance allows you and your family to make a more significant future gift to Balmoral Hall School than may be possible during your lifetime. Rather than just writing a monthly or yearly cheque to the School, premiums that are paid on a donated insurance policy are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

In the case of the Bicknell family, three life insurance policies for \$150,000 were taken in each of the daughter's names. Ownership was transferred to Balmoral Hall School. The premiums of \$2,400 per year (approximately \$800 per policy) are paid by the family and are eligible annually for a charitable tax receipt. When the policy matures (in this case after a 10-year period), a named bursary will be created and held in trust until the policies are realized.

What makes this planned giving vehicle so unique is that the full amount of the 10 annual payments is a charitable donation—a wonderful way to leverage a donation to the School.



## Three Common Situations in which a Gift of Life Insurance May Benefit Estate Planning

Many donors have found life insurance to be a rewarding way of making a large future gift while providing tax credits that can be used now. Here are three common situations where a gift of life insurance is used in estate planning.

- 1. Donation of an existing policy:** As a person's circumstances change, life insurance policies that were once considered important to estate planning may no longer be needed. In this case, individuals can choose to donate their life insurance policy to Balmoral Hall School. The School will issue a tax receipt for the donated policy's cash surrender value. If any future premiums are paid, the school will also issue a tax receipt for them.
- 2. Purchase of a new policy:** A person may purchase a new policy and assign Balmoral Hall School as its owner. The School then designates itself the beneficiary. The individual pays the life insurance premiums on the policy and receives a charitable tax receipt for each annual premium as it is paid.
- 3. Designating the School as the beneficiary of an existing policy:** An individual may simply choose to designate Balmoral Hall School as the beneficiary of an existing policy for which they retain ownership. A tax receipt will be issued to the estate by the School at the time the policy proceeds are received, which can be used to offset estate taxes.

*We encourage you to discuss your donation with your financial advisor and to work with our Advancement professionals to make your gift to the School.*

## Meliora Petens Legacy Society Welcomes New Members

The Meliora Petens Legacy Society recognizes donors who have included Balmoral Hall School in their estate planning and have notified the Advancement Office of their intent, or who have already made an estate gift to the School. Every year, we welcome new members of the BH Family to the Society.

Many thanks to **Valerie Halland RLS '48** who has made provisions for Balmoral Hall School in her Will. Ms. Halland has been an active member of the alumnae attending events in London, England and more recently, travelling to Canada to attend the summer 2007 event at Lake of the Woods in Ontario. During her two weeks in Winnipeg, she was able to spend time visiting the School and is planning to write her memoirs, with details about her school days in the mid-1940s at Rupert's Land School.

In February 2006 at the age of 89, **Lucille Cubbidge RLS '35** passed away. A regular donor to the Annual Fund, Ms. Cubbidge's bequest will help grow the Alumnae Future Generations Fund, an endowment fund which provides financial aid to the daughter or granddaughter of an alumna who would otherwise not be able to attend Balmoral Hall School. Our most sincere thanks.

### Meliora Petens Legacy Society Members

Ruby (Benidickson) Ashdown RIV '39  
Sydney '10, Bridget '12 and Audrey '16 Bicknell  
Lucille Cubbidge RLS '35  
Susan (Harris) Foster '64  
Valerie Halland RLS '48  
Jennifer R. McQueen RLS '48  
Heather Joanne Brodie Melidones '65  
Deborah Metcalfe '76  
Alan & Corrine Scott, current parents of Kaitlyn Scott (Grade 6)  
Betty (Foster) Wilcox RLS '34  
Anonymous

To advise BH of your legacy gift plans or for more information about our Planned Giving Program, please contact Tina Alto, Director of Advancement at 630 Westminster Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3S1 or by phone at (204) 784-1614, or email [talto@balmorallhall.com](mailto:talto@balmorallhall.com)



# Annual Fund Reaching New Heights

by: Geneviève Delaquis, Director of Annual Fund

Every day, students and staff benefit from the generosity of our donors.

Contributions have enriched the classrooms with new learning tools and resources, increased scholarship and bursary options for existing and future students and supported Balmoral Hall School's commitment to excellence.

For the 4th consecutive year, participation from parents, alumnae, grandparents and friends has increased while board of governors and staff participation continues at 100%. As a result, volunteers and supporters are creating a real sense of community and are excited by the knowledge that together, they are building a great girls school right in the heart of Canada.

Thank you to our team of 25 parent volunteers who are inviting support from the entire parent community and to our alumnae volunteers who are about to embark on their 3rd alumnae phone-a-thon.

There are many ways to make a gift and many opportunities to make a difference for our students—current and future. Every donation will get us closer to our June 2008 goal of \$275,000 and will ensure we not only reach for excellence, we achieve it!

## The Beginnings of an Alumnae Legacy

We have reached our first milestone with the Alumnae Future Generations Fund. This new endowment created by alumnae for alumnae has reached our initial goal of \$25,000.

For the first time, this endowment will generate a \$1,000 bursary to offset the tuition costs (approximately \$10,000) for the daughter of an alumna. Your continued support of this fund is critical to realizing our long-term goal of never turning away the daughter or granddaughter of an alumna due to financial circumstances.

To ensure we reach the necessary funds required to support this exciting initiative, an endowment of this magnitude will require alumnae to not only consider annual gifts but also significant lifetime gifts through their estates.

## Grandparents Join the Wisdom Circle

The Wisdom Circle, a new giving club, has been created to recognize the growing support we receive annually from grandparents. All grandparents who contribute to the Annual Fund will be recognized in the School's Annual Report and will be listed alongside the name of their granddaughter(s). Thank you to the many grandparents who have already made their donation to the 2007-08 Annual Fund.

## New Giving Opportunity for U.K. Donors

Balmoral Hall School can now accept gifts from our donors in the U.K. through The Charities Aid Foundation. Our U.K. donors will be receiving details about this new opportunity as well as a Gift Aid Declaration Form within the coming weeks.

The Declaration Form allows the Charities Aid Foundation to reclaim the basic rate tax you have already paid, and in turn increase the size of your donation to Balmoral Hall School. Donors who intend to use the Charities Aid Foundation to make a gift to Balmoral Hall School must inform the School of their intent.

## Gifts of Securities

Gifts of securities—that is, gifts of stock, bonds and mutual funds—have become a popular choice for donors. Recently, BH received a \$45,000 anonymous gift of securities—a win for both the School and the donor since the federal government eliminated the capital gains tax on gifts of security to charitable organizations on May 2, 2006.

Donors can donate listed securities to Balmoral Hall School, obtain a tax-receipt for the market value of the gift and are completely exempt for any capital gains tax. Previously, donors were required to pay a capital gains tax on the donation of their securities. That tax substantially reduced the benefit of the charitable donation tax credit. The tax provision applies whether the securities are donated outright in a given year, or are donated through a bequest in your will.

To learn more about the many giving opportunities, please contact Tina Alto, Director of Advancement.

Balmoral Hall School Advancement Office

630 Westminster Avenue Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 3S1

Tel: (204) 784-1614 / 1-888-DREAM11 / E-mail: [talto@balmoralhall.com](mailto:talto@balmoralhall.com)



# 2007 – 2008 Board of Governors

## Meet Our New Members



### Barbara King

Leanne, class of 2012 and son, Rhys (SJR 2014) (attended BH in K)

This is Barb's first year serving as a member of the Board of Governors. She currently sits on the Advancement Committee and will be chairing the relatively new and popular

Alumnae/Parent event that will be held July 31, 2008 at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club. Barb moved to Winnipeg with her family from Nova Scotia in 1994. She studied Sociology at Dalhousie University for 3 1/2 years and then became employed with Canadian Airlines for the next 21 years. Barb brings with her a wealth of experience from having children attend and graduate from both public and private schools. She served on the Ladies Guild (now SJRPA) at SJR for years and has contributed many volunteer hours at SJR, Glenlawn Collegiate and BH. Barb's other commitments include the Canadian Museum for Human Rights campaign committee, the RWB's Gala event committee and canvassing for Manitoba's Alzheimer and Heart and Stroke Societies.



### Shawn Hughes

Bryn, class of 2013 and Haley, class of 2011

This is Shawn's first year serving as a member of the Board of Governors. She currently sits on the Human Resources & Compensation Committee and Discipline Committee. She received a BA from the University of

Winnipeg and Bachelor of Law from the University of Manitoba. Shawn spent a dozen years practicing corporate and business law as a partner at Buchwald Asper before becoming General Counsel for Moffat Communications Limited (CKY-TV, Women's Television Network and Videon Cablesystems). Currently, Shawn is Vice-President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel at Pollard Banknote. Shawn's professional experience includes acquisitions, commercial contracts, regulatory compliance, secured financings, intellectual property and employment law. Her past board work includes the Manitoba Law Foundation and she is a Life Council Member of the Manitoba Bar Association. Shawn has been an active Committee Member of the Guardian Angel Benefit for Women's Cancer for the past several years, having chaired the Sponsorship campaign for the past few years. Shawn likes to keep busy while pursuing a balanced and well-rounded lifestyle. She looks forward to meeting more of the BH parent community

through her term on the Board and welcomes input from any parents on issues of concern or matters for the Board's consideration at any time. Feel free to call her at her telephone number in the BH Directory.



### David Provinciano

Carmen, class of 2011 and Christopher grade 11 at SJR

Dave has been a proud member of the Board of Governors since the fall of 2007. He has been active with various BH projects since 2005 having applied his considerable experience to the Building Committee. His

visions for BH in the realms of expansion and building improvement are similar to those in his business life. These include the ownership and development of several commercial properties across Canada. "Dave Pro" began his career in the Automotive Service sector in 1973 and, since then, his business has evolved into the nation-wide automotive parts wholesaler known as Pro Body Parts, with busy outlets in seven provinces. As mentioned, his group of companies is also active in the acquisition and leasing of commercial real estate. Dave and his Pro Group of Companies support numerous charities across the country, including his Dragon Boat team in support of Breast Cancer research and treatment. With "lifer" Carmen now in Grade 9, Dave and his wife Joanne, who is an active member of the BH Parent Association, are committed BH parents and look forward to several more years of active contribution to life at Balmoral Hall School.



### Maria Reimer '95

Maria joined the Board of Governors in the fall of 2007. A BH lifer, Maria now serves as President of the Alumnae Association. She received a BA (Honours) from the University of Winnipeg in 2000 and a LL.B. (Distinction) from the University of New Brunswick in 2004. Maria

returned to Winnipeg and was called to the Bar in Manitoba in 2005. Since that time, she has been employed at Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson LLP and practices in the areas of corporate and commercial law, with an emphasis on financial services and commercial real property. In addition to the BH Board of Governors, Maria also currently sits on the Board of the Mount Carmel Clinic Foundation. In her leisure time, she is an active competitor in and volunteer for the Manitoba Hunter Jumper Association portfolio of horse shows and enjoys riding her horse on a recreational basis throughout the balance of the year.



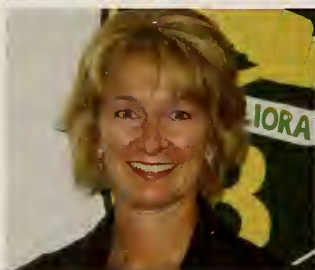
# 2007 – 2008 Board of Governors

## Returning Members *(profiled in The Portal, Spring 2007)*



### **James R. Morden, Chair**

Cleo '06, Macy, class of 2008  
and Jaunty '10  
Member of the Governance &  
Nominating Committee, Audit  
& Risk Management Committee  
and Appeals Panel



### **Wanda S. Zajac, Vice-Chair**

Ashley '02, Robyn, class of 2008  
and son Nicholas grade 7, SJR  
(attended BH in JK and K)  
Member of the Governance &  
Nominating Committee and Audit  
& Risk Management Committee



### **Heather Richardson**

Celine, class of 2015  
Chair of the Advancement  
Committee and Member of the  
Governance & Nominating  
Committee



### **Darcy Zaporzan**

Olivia, class of 2008  
Chair of the Discipline  
Committee, Member of the  
Governance & Nominating  
Committee and Member of the  
Advancement Committee



### **Paul Beatty**

Chair of the Audit & Risk  
Management Committee



### **Corrine Scott**

Kaitlyn, class of 2014  
Member of the Audit & Risk  
Management Committee



### **Douglas John Thomson**

Ella, class of 2013  
Chair of the Human Resources &  
Compensation Committee and  
Member of the Appeals Panel



### **Charlotte Sytnyk**

Sarah, class of 2013 and  
Shelby, class of 2016  
Member of the Human  
Resources & Compensation  
Committee and Member of the  
Appeals Panel



### **John Webster**

Stephanie, class of 2010 and  
son Alexander grade 8, SJR  
(attended BH in JK and K)  
Member of the Human  
Resources & Compensation  
Committee, Member of the  
Advancement Committee



### **Paul Jacuzzi**

Robin '07  
Member of the Advancement  
Committee and Discipline  
Committee



### **Chrystal Robert**

Aurora, class of 2015  
Chair of the Appeals Panel and  
Member of the Discipline  
Committee





*Elsa Rensaa, Barbara (Blick) Berg, Claire Sumerlus, Jill Akman*



*Megan Jessiman, Claire Sumerlus, Barbara (Blick) Berg*



*Anne O'Sullivan, Rosemary Hanna and June (Sinden) Rubenok*



*Alexis Cloutier, Claire Sumerlus, Kim Spencer-Nairn and Sarah Perrin*



*Standing: June (Sinden) Rubenok, Claire Sumerlus, Susan Riley, and Linda (Leach) Radcliffe. Seated: Rosemary (Lee) McConnell and Laurel (Bell) Osler*

## Alumnae Receptions

In late 2007, Tina Alto, Director of Advancement and Claire Sumerlus, Head of School, held alumnae receptions in Vancouver and New York. It was wonderful to see both familiar and new faces at the receptions and we thank everyone for joining us.

### New York Guest Book

Jill Akman '02  
Ashleigh Banfield '85  
Barbara (Blick) Berg '68  
Megan Jessiman '83  
Elsa Rensaa Grade 11 '61

### Vancouver Guest Book

Lynn (Premachuk) Braun '82  
Alexis Cloutier '98  
Mhelanni Gorre '02  
Rosemary Hanna '63  
Lori (Hutchison) Kavanagh '85  
Anna Kozlova '02  
Rosemary (Lee) McConnell RLS '42  
Laurel (Bell) Osler RLS Grade 11 '42  
Anne O'Sullivan '80  
Sarah Perrin '98  
Linda (Leach) Radcliffe '63  
Susan Riley Grade 11 '63  
June (Sinden) Rubenok RLS Grade 11 '45  
Allison (Travis) Smith '82  
Kim Spencer-Nairn '93



*Lynn (Premachuk) Brown, Lori (Hutchison) Kavanagh and Allison (Travis) Smith*



*Mhelanni Gorre, Claire Sumerlus and Anna Kozlova*





## BH Welcomes New Alumnae President

by: Maria Reimer '95

I am pleased and excited to accept the role of Alumnae Association President, succeeding my former classmate Rebecca Lechman '95.

By way of background, I am a BH Lifer, having attended Balmoral Hall School from 1983–1995. Following high school, I attended the University of Winnipeg, graduating with a BA (Honours) in English in 2000, and subsequently, the University of New Brunswick, from which I graduated with a LLB (Distinction) in 2004. I returned to Winnipeg in 2004, commenced my articles with Aikins, MacAulay Thorvaldson LLP, and was called to the Bar in 2005.

Since that time, I have been employed with Aikins as an associate. I have a general corporate and commercial practice, with an emphasis on financial services and commercial real estate.

In my leisure time, I am an active competitor in and volunteer for the Manitoba Hunter Jumper Association portfolio of horse shows and I enjoy riding my horse on a recreational basis throughout the balance of the year.

In my role as Alumnae Association President, I look forward to reconnecting with all of the alumnae of the school, including my former friends and colleagues of the 1990's. The Alumnae Association is committed to increasing the involvement of alumnae with the School. To that end, I encourage all alumnae to join the Alumnae Association on Friday, April 11th, 2008 at 11 o'clock for the annual Alumnae Assembly in the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre, followed by the Alumnae Association Annual General Meeting in Aikins House at noon.

The Alumnae Association looks forward to hearing from you! Please contact us by calling Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office to confirm your attendance at the Alumnae Assembly and Annual General Meeting, or simply to update us with your latest news and contact information. Ginny can be reached by calling (204) 784-1603 or at [alumnae@balmorallhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmorallhall.com)





*Thank you Catriona Macfarlane '95, Amber Bewza '02, Kyla Caners '04, Kyla Belton '03, Melanie Riggs '06 and Kate Langrell '07 for volunteering their time to speak with Grade 12 students about university and career choices.*

## The Real Deal University Spiel

On October 5, 2007, six BH alumnae took time to speak to our Grade 12 students about university and career choices. This year we had a great turnout including alums from 1995, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006 & 2007, all from various backgrounds. The Grade 12's were able to ask questions and get first-hand information as they prepare to graduate from Balmoral Hall School.

## Attention Class of 1988

Plans are underway for a 20 year reunion. Alumnae will be getting together in Winnipeg on the weekend of June 6, 7 and 8, 2008. Be sure to stay informed of all the plans by signing up on a message board that was started by Darlene (Andison) Burke '88. To sign up please contact Darlene at [darleneab@mac.com](mailto:darleneab@mac.com)

## Attention Class of 1998

Plans are underway for a 10 year reunion in Winnipeg. Be sure to save the date—September Long Weekend August 30, 31 and September 1, 2008. Please ensure that your mailing information is up to date by contacting Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603 and that you are registered on the alumnae email directory [www.balmoralhall.com/email\\_directory.htm](http://www.balmoralhall.com/email_directory.htm)

Invitations with full details will be mailed.



## Congratulations to Alumnae Celebrating their Reunion Years!

**Balmoral Hall School will be hosting a special Alumnae Assembly Friday, April 11 at 10:45 a.m.** We would like to invite all alumnae to join us on this special day. We will be honouring alumnae who are celebrating their 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 70th reunions! We will also welcome the newest members of our Alumnae, the current Grade 12 class. Invitations will be mailed to alumnae celebrating their reunion years, however we encourage all alumnae to join us.

**An Alumnae AGM and luncheon will take place following the assembly from 12 – 1 p.m.** We encourage all alumnae to join us over their lunch hour to review the most current Mission, Vision and Key Focus Areas of the Alumnae Association.

For more information, please contact Ginny Lechman '98 at (204) 784-1603 or [alumnae@balmorallhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmorallhall.com)



*Last year's graduates including Head Girl Robin Jacuzzi '07, Kathryn Marcynuk '07 and Katie Moore '07.*

# Home



*Kristin Westdal '98 and Mrs. Teresa Friesen enjoy catching up at Home for the Holidays.*

*Mrs. Mandy Green reminisces with some of our prep hockey players including Ashley Rebeck '07, Cindy Lukianchuk '07 and Sam Wauer '07.*





## Refer BH to a family!

Alumnae and Friends of BH are the School's most successful recruiters.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year.

To arrange for a tour and application information, contact Pamela McGhie, Director of Admissions at (204) 784-1621 or e-mail [admissions@balmoralhall.com](mailto:admissions@balmoralhall.com)




Did you know over 1,000  
alumnae have already  
joined the BH Alumnae  
E-mail Directory?

You too can stay in touch with former classmates.  
Search by first or last name, graduating class  
or region.

**Check it out! Sign up at [www.balmoralhall.com](http://www.balmoralhall.com)  
Click on Alumnae and then E-mail Directory.**

Balmoral Hall School  
Alumnae Directory  
*Helping Alumnae Find Others on the Net*



You must be registered in the directory to login  
[Please add me!](#)

Help! I've lost my password  
[E-mail it to me](#)

Listed Alumnae can login with their email address and password

Email Address

Password

[Press to Login!](#)

[Acceptable Use Policy](#)  
Email us at  
[alumnae@balmoralhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmoralhall.com)

[Return to BH Alumnae Page](#)  
[e-mail, chat, image  
and a lot more!](#)  
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# for the Holidays

*Ashleigh Sprange '01, Mrs. Geneviève Delaquis, Allison Pigden '04 and Elisabeth Leitgeb '02*



*Alumnae Prefect Alex Campbell '08, Moira Gustafson '95 and Alumnae President Maria Reimer '95*

*Ms. Terry Fulton-Baillie catches up with alums Amanda Aldous '02 and Anna Penner '01.*

Thank you to the numerous alumnae who joined us on December 21, 2007 for Home for the Holidays. Held in Aikins House, this annual event is held in late December when our young alums are typically home from university or college for the holidays. It is a great opportunity for them to catch up with both classmates and former teachers.



## AN INSIDE LOOK

*Balmoral Hall School's history spans over a century. In its lifetime, the School has graduated hundreds of young women who have gone on to make their mark on local and international fronts. Four BH alumnae share with the Balmoral Hall School community where life has taken them and what they have been doing since graduation.*

## We'd Love to Profile You!

Help us continue An Inside Look as a regular feature in *The Portal* by letting us know where life has taken you, or give us a lead on a classmate!

Aimed at highlighting the many achievements of our alumnae, we look forward to sharing many more stories that will inspire the BH community.

Please contact Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office at [alumnae@balmoralhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmoralhall.com) or (204) 784-1603.

## Following Paths o

### A Profile of Megan Jessiman '83



3x5 spiral notebook in hand, I'm sitting in a chair in a "pre-op holding area" at Columbia University Medical Center. The anesthesiologist I'm following today is running late, and so I'm waiting. Happily. In my first year of medical school I've grown rather grateful for these unexpected half hours, especially ones that can't be used for anything other than quietly thinking or jotting down a few thoughts.

The mercifully detained anesthesiologist was a student at Yale Divinity School when I was doing a masters degree in Philosophy of Religion there 15 years ago. In that context, when both she and I were pursuing graduate degrees that were age appropriate, we had about the same level of competence. No doubt we'll have some interesting conversations this afternoon, while she deftly monitors gas flows and EKG readings and keeps people alive in the OR. I, by contrast, will be praying that nobody asks me to listen to anything physiologically significant with the stethoscope that's hanging around my neck. I'm at the stage where getting dressed up for my once-a-week clerkship (i.e., a weekly dose of clinical experience to complement our days of lectures and nights of studying) still makes me giggle inside. Last term I wore merely a white coat on top of street clothes. Today, for the first time, I have on blue scrubs, a white coat, clogs and a stethoscope. I look like I just walked off the "Grey's Anatomy" set. I feel like texting my twelve-year-old daughter, Katharine, to tell her. She was, after all, the one who taught me the "cool" way to wear a stethoscope. But, I remind myself, I have no idea how to use it. Although a stethoscope looks like a straightforward piece of equipment, I'm chastened by a prior attempt at taking a classmate's blood pressure. A sphygmomanometer also looked like a pretty straightforward piece of equipment. It wasn't.



# Meaning, from BH to Medicine



Megan's daughter Katharine

That was as far as I got in my note-jotting before the anesthesiologist appeared. Amid telling me about things an anesthesiologist must consider during laparoscopic procedures in particular, we talked about ethics, Yale, our kids. We must have been enjoying our particular mix of medicine with other things because the surgeon, from the other side of the drape, wanted to join in the conversation. The anesthesiologist is presenting an ethics case in Grand Rounds tomorrow, a presentation where she'll draw on her training in both ethics and medicine. I love hearing about confluences like that, and they don't

surprise me. I've realized that as long as you keep doing in life the things that you love and that you feel most drawn to—even when it means that you find yourself at age 42 starting medical school with people who are twenty years younger—a consistent narrative and a rich life emerges.

For me that fortunately rich life started at Balmoral Hall School. After twelve years that began, at age three, in Mrs. Taylor's nursery school class, I left the school in 1980 when my family moved out to BC. I graduated from Princeton in 1987 with an A.B. in English Literature, from Yale in 1993 with a Masters in Philosophy of Religion, and from Columbia in 2004 with a Ph.D. in Philosophy. I love teaching philosophy but my academic work had drawn me towards psychoanalysis and psychotherapy (as had, frankly, a difficult marriage). Deeply interested in human constructions of meaning, my focus became increasingly clinical. I contemplated psychoanalytic training, but thought it wise to get some experience talking with at least one psychiatric patient first. After my first few weeks volunteering in the adult inpatient psychiatry unit at Columbia, and in seeing the life of ongoing learning in an academic medical center, I suspected that I had found my place in the world. The clincher was attending a Saturday morning neuroscience lecture series attended by everyone from premed students to veteran 85-year-old clinicians. Such kind of ongoing learning and participation is, sadly, rare in academia. My passion for science and math was rekindled. And so I applied to the post-bac premed program at Columbia and, a few years later, find myself in the midst of medical school. The work load is marginally insane, but I spend all of my days surrounded by great people learning truly fascinating stuff. I would, in fact, liken

medical school to adult summer camp plus 24–7 studying—and that turns out not to be a contradiction in terms.

My path to medical school has, admittedly, been circuitous, but I wouldn't want to have missed any of the stops along the way. None of my past experiences matters to me more than Balmoral Hall School. In fact, no other place—except my grandmother's house on West Gate—remains so deeply rooted in my mind and heart. It wasn't just the education, the teachers and the friends. BH had, and still has, a marvelously stable and nurturing culture. I so often turn my thoughts to memories of BH when I seek comfort—or a musical repertoire. I sang Katharine to sleep for years exclusively with hymns and songs from morning Assembly... "Jerusalem," "Holy, Holy, Holy" "Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessings," "It Only Takes a Spark to Get a Fire Going," "O Canada" half in English, half in French. If Mrs. Honey hadn't played it on the piano, I didn't sing it. And in the second week of June every year I still feel like I should be wrapping things up by walking to Westminster Church for Closing Exercises. My Ph.D. thesis, in fact, was much influenced by the lingering ways in which BH has formed my sense of time, place, and people. I looked at schooling as a cultural form, as a means, perhaps not unlike religion or art, by which we give lasting structure and meaning to our experience.

Whenever I bring Katharine back to Winnipeg, BH is always a destination. Although she attends a great K–12 single-sex school in New York, she's picked up on how special BH is. She looks wistfully at pictures of her second cousins, Alex ('12) and Cady ('14) Jessiman, in their BH uniforms.

I should now turn my attention back to the anatomy of the face. Did you know that a lot of our facial structure relates to the gill arches of fish? 'Must study overtime tonight because I'm planning to take a lot of time off this weekend when my cousin, Maggie Trott '95 visits with her family.

Megan Jessiman '83 is a first year medical student at Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons. She has lived in New York City for twenty years, and she relishes visits from BH alumnae, as sister Stacey (Jessiman) de Nanteuil '86, mother Rae (Burrell) Jessiman '59, deceased aunt Cydney (Burrell) Trott '60, aunt Judy (Munro) Jessiman '60, aunt Janet (Harrison) Burrell '65, and others would report. Megan is, in fact, looking forward to visits this weekend from cousin Maggie Trott '95, and later this spring from cousin Heather (Jessiman) Partridge '90. Her email is [mjessiman@aol.com](mailto:mjessiman@aol.com).



# From BH to New York City!

## A Profile of Anna-Lisa Cohen '85



I remember shopping with my mother for my Balmoral Hall School uniform in the summer before I entered Grade 3 at BH. Having spent 2 years at a public school and being accustomed to wearing jeans everyday (my uniform of choice); I looked at the dark green wool tartan kilt with a mixture of curiosity and apprehension. I remember my first day of school and

meeting my wonderful teacher Mrs. Henry whose warmth and sensitivity quickly put me at ease as I navigated my new environment. Being the daughter of two outstanding parents (my father: a brilliant entrepreneurial visionary, my mother: a beautiful European intellectual and performing artist), I experienced some struggles in finding my own voice. I recall numerous report cards having some variation of the phrase "Anna-Lisa is not living up to her potential". Through the patience of my teachers and the strong bonds of friendships that I am fortunate to have maintained today, I graduated from Balmoral Hall School with the tools that would allow me to realize the potential that these teachers suspected I possess. But there was still much work to do.

The inauspicious beginnings of my post-secondary education took place at Queen's University where my new found independence interfered with my academic pursuits. I was 17-years-old, nearly two years younger than most of my peers who completed Grade 13 in Ontario, and I was homesick. I changed my major nearly 3 times in that first year and by my second year at Queen's, I decided that it was time for a change. I transferred to York University where I completed a Fine Arts degree. I loved living in Toronto and I loved my Fine Arts studies which allowed me to take classes in ballet and modern dance (a strong interest after having taken years of ballet classes at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School). After graduating from York University at the age of 22, I decided to fulfill a dream of

being a performer and I auditioned for small independent modern dance companies. I danced and performed for several years in Toronto but the injuries and challenges of the lifestyle led me to change my career path.

The call of academia was beckoning and I decided to engage in a cautious experiment. I realized that I had always been interested in human behaviour and I loved writing so I enrolled in several psychology classes at the University of Toronto and I volunteered to write for the university newspaper *The Varsity* where notable writers Naomi Klein and Bob Rae are alumni. I enjoyed writing but it was in my psychology classes where I had the epiphany and realized that I was suddenly "home". I adored the course material and the intellectual challenges of my classes. I obtained the highest grade out of 250 students in my basic memory course and, as a result, my professor (Dr. Fergus Craik) invited me to take a research position in his lab. I fell in love with the old ivy covered buildings and learning to apply the scientific method in a real-life research setting. I KNEW that I never wanted to leave this academic world and so began my journey of applying to graduate school. In 1997, I was accepted into a PhD program in the psychology department at the University of Victoria where I studied human memory and aging. I spent over 5 intense years taking courses, conducting experiments, and publishing academic papers.

After finishing my PhD in the fall of 2002, I obtained a 2-year post-doctoral scholarship (SSHRC grant) to conduct research at New York University, fulfilling a lifelong dream of living in New York City. At approximately the same time, I met my future husband in Victoria 4 months before I was scheduled to move to New York. He had just started a 3-year law degree at the University of Victoria. We decided that if our relationship was meant to last, then it would withstand the monumental challenges of long distance. We really had no other choice. I moved to New York in February 2003 and lived amidst the craziness of downtown Soho in an apartment that was subsidized by NYU. For two years I conducted research examining the influence of goals and intentions on behaviour while enjoying all that Manhattan had to offer. Mike and I managed surprisingly well flying back and forth across the continent every six weeks, however, by the time we had spent 2 years living apart, we decided it was time for us to be together. I moved to Vancouver to be with him as he finished articling with a Canadian law firm. I took a position as an adjunct instructor at the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University. For two years, I taught huge introductory psychology classes of over 200 students at UBC where I had the chance to develop my chops as a teacher and not just a researcher. Although I enjoyed teaching, adjunct instructors are not tenure-tracked and the pay was little more than a teaching assistant. Therefore, I applied for tenure-track assistant professor positions in 2006 throughout Canada and the United States. I interviewed

(Continued on page 33)



# London Calling

## A Profile of Louise (Coyle) Nelson '93



I can't believe that it's been 15 years since I graduated from Balmoral Hall School. So much has happened!

### University days

After an emotional graduation in the summer of 1993, I headed out to UBC in Vancouver to pursue a four-year international relations degree. I found it fascinating as I got to take a wide variety of history and politics courses, as well as few language and literature ones. In my last year of the program, I decided to take a law degree with the hope of one day focussing on public international law. I was accepted into UBC's law program and decided to stay in Vancouver.

In my last semester of law school, I did a study abroad program in Tokyo at the satellite campus of Philadelphia's Temple University. My law degree was conferred in November 2000, shortly before which I married an English lawyer who was working in Tokyo at the same time I was there. And so, I moved to London with him in January 2001.

Although it was my original ambition to become a lawyer, I admittedly found the study of the law a little dry, especially after doing such a varied liberal arts degree. In my heart of hearts, I knew I wanted to do something where I could draw upon my writing and communications skills. I think that the experience of working as a fashion model also made me want to pursue something a little creative. (I was fortunate enough to do some fashion modelling in Tokyo, Paris and Vancouver during summer holidays whilst at BH and university. My big break during the BH Fashion Show in Grade 11, funny enough!)

The upshot is that when I moved to London, I decided to try something other than law. You only live once!

### Journalism and public relations

As one of the world's most important financial centres, London boasts thousands of banks, financial institutions and law firms. There is a correspondingly high number of business publications, which are all in competition with each other. Most of these are in the so-called 'City' or 'Square Mile', as London's financial district is known.

Shortly after arriving in London, I was able to capitalise on my law degree and find work as a journalist at a legal business magazine called 'Commercial Lawyer'. My role was to report on the world's leading law firms. My articles included analysis of trends and developments affecting commercial law firms, management stories, profiles of lawyers and firms, as well as news reports on major cases and transactions. I enjoyed writing for the magazine a great deal, but after a few years, I wanted a new challenge. In late 2005, I crossed over from journalism into public relations. I joined a major City law firm called Barlow Lyde & Gilbert ("BLG") as its Press Officer.

My role at BLG is to promote the work that my firm does and ensure that we get extensive coverage in the national and trade press, as well as broadcast media. Good PR is basically free advertising. In a nutshell, I secure coverage for the firm through press releases, building good relationships with journalists (who will later quote us in their articles) and monitoring the news to see which stories we can comment on. I also handle press inquiries and train partners on how to deal with the media.

I've managed to secure some good mentions of my firm in major UK newspapers, including The Times, The Daily Telegraph and the FT. In this type of work, speed and timing are everything. Journalists work to very tight deadlines which means you have to know when and how to approach them. Choosing the right story to 'sell in' to the papers is crucial. Needless to say, it's very challenging and no one day is the same. Happily, I think I've found my niche!

Outside of work, I enjoy travelling, scuba diving, and writing. I visited my sister, Sarah '97 twice in Montreal last year, where she's doing a Masters degree in psychology at Concordia. I plan on meeting up with her and my parents again in Mexico in late March, and then will head to Cyprus for more sun in late June. English summers are unpredictable to say the least!

### Looking back...and ahead

It is only now that I fully appreciate what a superb education I had at BH. The quality of the curriculum was excellent and well-balanced between the science and the humanities. When I was in Grades 11 and 12, I was able to take some Advanced Placement courses which were tough but stimulating.

(Continued on page 33)



# Destination: Africa!

A Profile of Catherine Simons '06



June 2006: after living in the Balmoral Hall School Residence for four years, waving goodbye on that summer day to what had become my family was heart wrenching. It marked the conclusion of an extraordinary time in my life.



Over the summer, I worked first as a field hand on an organic farm and then as a nanny in New Jersey. In September 2006, my bank account reaching the necessary sum, I boarded a plane. Destination: AFRICA! I decided to defer my university admissions one year. I was ready to go out and explore the world! My uncle lives with his wife and son in Lusaka the capital city of Zambia, a formerly British colony located in the central region of southern Africa. My aunt is of the Kikuyu and Maasai tribes of central Kenya. Both my aunt and uncle hold PhDs and are just about as well versed on issues in Africa as they come. As a family, they have travelled extensively and lived in an astonishing number of countries. The prospect of life with this family seemed just the ticket.

I arrived in the heat of the dry season to find the land parched before the rains. Every outing was a guaranteed adventure as I soaked up the sun and the culture. Lusaka is a sprawling city of over a million offering a wealth of experiences. A vibrant downtown boasts skyscrapers and markets selling everything from hammers to knock-off Gucci sunglasses. From purchasing fresh mangos to haggling over the price of a mini-bus ride, every experience was a learning one. Large trucks, mini-buses, private vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and sometimes animals, jostle for position on the roads. Traffic rules are typically a mere suggestion in this busy city. Life moves at a different pace and learning to adapt is the most valuable lesson.

In Lusaka, I was forever busy with a million projects. From teaching English to street kids, working on a construction site, Salsa and African dancing lessons, swimming, and a Web Design course at a local college, I tried to dabble in everything. I became a member of the *Young Entrepreneurs Organization*. Attending weekly meetings, taking minutes, preparing agendas and planning events, not dissimilar from BH student government, were all part of the mix as this wonderful group of young people strove to better themselves.



Twavwane Community Initiative was the effort of 20 women who undertook the task of making a difference in their struggling community. Pooling their modest individual resources, this group sustained a school offering classes to over 100 children of the community and a home-based-care program providing medical and nutritional support for members of the community suffering from HIV/AIDS. I was truly touched by their perseverance and enthusiasm; with so little they were incredibly resourceful! Surely I could learn much from them. I didn't have much money to offer but I had time and knowledge. I wrote letters and drafted proposals, networking like no man's business. Due to the generosity of several companies, 200 baby chicks, feed, and supplies were secured. I rounded-up supplies and before long we had a chicken-run. Success! Upon maturation, the chickens were sold and the routine would continue with purchases and sales. This income-generating project and several others had the potential to sustain Twavwane's activities. I witnessed selflessness, courage, and absolute faith. Truly remarkable women destined to create change!

Interspersed during my stay were various trips. Countries visited = 6. Whether by foot, bicycle, car, bus, train, ferry, or air, I had travelled to villages, islands, game parks, waterfalls, and major cities throughout eastern and southern Africa. For two weeks, a friend and I backpacked through East Africa devoid of itinerary. We dined on fresh seafood in Zanzibar, Tanzania and wandered the markets of Mombasa, Kenya. My dad came to visit for the last two weeks of my stay. Just as in my BH days, on his trips to Winnipeg, I gave him tours of the city, introduced him to my friends, and demonstrated my aptitude for delicate exchanges in the markets (hah!). We spent several days in South Africa touring Johannesburg and Pretoria.

I returned to the United States in May 2007. Back in the U.S., I became a certified lifeguard and was hired at Camp Buckskin, a camp for youth with learning and behavioural disabilities, located in Ely, Minnesota. I currently attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities as possibly the oldest freshman ever (20)! My university boasts a student body of nearly 60,000 students. I have yet to declare a major but my interests lie in Anthropology, Political Science, and Law. I'm studying Swahili (the language of East Africa) and I plan on a year-long study exchange in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 2009. I lifeguard, train and certify new lifeguards, and teach swimming lessons and am taking Tae Kwon Do. I am also training to run the Twin Cities Marathon in October 2008.

My family sends their heartfelt good wishes to all! Please write: [simon572@umn.edu](mailto:simon572@umn.edu). Much love to all of the BH Family!

## A Profile of Anna-Lisa Cohen '85 (con't.)

and accepted a position back in my beloved New York. Currently, I am an assistant professor in the psychology department at Yeshiva University and my husband obtained a position at a law firm in New York. We still and always will consider ourselves Canucks and are in the process of joining the "Canadian Association of New York".

I think my story is different in that I didn't begin to realize my academic potential until relatively later in life (around age 27 when I decided to take classes at U of Toronto). This is not a profile of the BH girl who won all of the prizes in Grade 12 and then went on to dominate in her chosen field. This is a profile of the BH girl who took a more serendipitous route but benefited from an environment where potential is nurtured even if it doesn't fully blossom during the secondary school years. There is a hidden glow of potential in all students and, as teachers; the challenge is to help students find a way to let it out. Thanks to all of the teachers (especially Mrs. Cantlie) who took that time.

## A Profile of Louise (Coyle) Nelson '93 (con't.)

Class sizes at BH have been traditionally quite small, which allows students and teachers to work more closely together. The extracurricular programming was similarly excellent, and I had the chance to get involved in a variety of sports and debating teams. (Not to mention the Science Club in Grade 7!) Most importantly, I made some lifelong friends.

The School definitely has an international spirit, encouraging students to explore different cultures and ways of thinking. Balmoral Hall School gave me an edge at university and at work. At BH, I was taught the value of learning and creativity. You can do anything and the only limit is your self-belief.

One day, I'd love to pen a novel or screenplay. I have a few ideas but I have to buckle down and commit them to paper. So, watch this space!

If you want to get in touch or pass through London, please contact me at [louisedaniellenelson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:louisedaniellenelson@yahoo.co.uk)!



## 1960s

### Susan Riley '64 (Grade 11 graduate of '63)

Susan has recently published a wonderful book entitled *We Watch the Waves*, an exploration of her father's death in 1947. She travelled to Winnipeg to do a reading at McNally Robinson on October 23, 2007. While in Winnipeg, Susan took some time out of her busy schedule to speak with our Senior School students about her work in Aboriginal law with the Department of Justice in British Columbia. Susan now lives in Vancouver and has two lovely grandchildren Riley Young and Finn Hoeschen.



### Trish (Pennock) Biggs '66, Cathy Pennock '67 & Martha (Pennock) Morrison '70

The Pennock sisters travelled to Winnipeg in the fall of 2007 and were able to meet with Susan Bracken '66.



### Patricia (Glover) Bovey '66

Patricia stopped by BH in January 2008 for a tour of the School and visit with the Alumnae Office. She was pleased to see that the school still looks well and enjoyed viewing the student artwork that was on display.

### Susan Bracken '66 & Judith (Clough) Coll '66

Susan and Judy spent 2½ weeks travelling together through parts of Europe and Egypt in September 2007.



### Susan Bracken '66 & Mary (Bruce) Graham '66 & Vicki Griffiths '67

While travelling to meet her friend Judy in Europe, Susan was able to make a stop in Toronto where she met with Mary Graham '66 and Vicki Griffiths '67.



## 1980s

### Lynn (Premachuk) Braun '82, Carol Seaton '82, Allison (Travis) Smith '82 and Shideh Khorasheh '82

Lynn, Carol, Allison, and Shideh got together in September 2007 before the alumnae reception in Vancouver. Allison and Shideh were at the 100th reunion, in 2002, but Carol and Lynn weren't, so it had been 25 years since they were all together!



### Stacey (Jessiman) de la Barre de Nanteuil '86

"Happy 2008! We are all well here. Aliénor is now 28 months old and speaking up a storm in a mix of French and English. She loves her English language pre-school, where she does lots of singing, painting and art projects. Pierre is a charming 11 month-old and is trying hard to move from cruising to walking. He finds Aliénor just fascinating and looks for any reason to laugh with her. We spent a quiet and enjoyable Christmas period with Geoffroy's family in Anjou, after a wonderful trip to Salt Spring Island this summer and a busy but fun time with Mum and Dad this past October, when they came to Paris to help us with the children and our move to a new apartment."



## 1990s

### Megan (Dodds) Morgan '91

"I have been and continue to be in touch with many classmates from the 1991 graduating class, Facebook seems to have helped a lot! I am doing well, finishing up an Art and Art History Degree at the University of Toronto and practicing my specialty by launching my own business and art practice, Manouche Photography. I have two photography exhibitions coming up in the spring, one at the Blackwood Gallery in Mississauga, Ontario in March and one at VMAC Gallery in Toronto, Ontario in April. I am loving life, enjoying my career and

continuing my education and constantly pursuing the art of "balance" that comes with all of that and being a mother of two!

I am looking forward to a Spring Break trip to Bermuda with my husband and two daughters, Jesha (7) and Sandelle (10). We'll be celebrating our twelfth wedding anniversary and otherwise having fun. Live, Love, Laugh!"

### Neela Kati '94

"Since graduating from BH, I went on to complete my degree in Environmental Science & Geology. I started at the University of Western Ontario and then completed my degree at the University of Manitoba. I then worked as a dental assistant for a few years before joining the orthodontic community as a treatment coordinator for an orthodontic practice in Winnipeg. I continued to sing while modeling for years locally and internationally winning titles such as Miss Swimwear Illustrated Canada, Miss Ujena, Miss 92 Citi FM and Miss Manitoba. I married my long time sweetheart, Kevin in 2005 in a 3 day wedding celebration consisting of both Hindu and Christian Ceremonies. We enjoy travelling and spending every moment with our 1 year old son, Rio.





## Catriona Macfarlane-Davies '95

"This past year has been a whirlwind of activity for yours truly. In April, I married my sweetheart, Phil Davies, in an intimate ceremony in the picturesque town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. We enjoyed ourselves so much that we repeated the entire experience on the beach in St. Lucia a few days later. Life is grand! Special thanks to my darling fellow alumna, Ms. Tina Penswick, for making the trek to Canada to join us for the festivities. For those of you who are unaware, I have returned to Winnipeg after a number of years in Toronto doing public relations for the music industry. Since returning, I'm delighted to have the opportunity to continue my passion for the arts as the Director, Marketing & Communications for the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation. Needless to say, we're glad to be home and I look forward to reconnecting with my classmates and BH!"



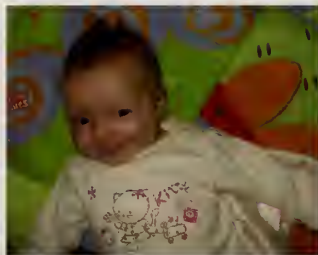
## Nina (Battison) Patel '96

Nina welcomed two identical twin girls, Issabella and Mackenzie Patel into the world on April 3, 2007. Both girls are doing very well and are keeping mom on her toes!



## Erin (Greenberg) Scott '97

Congratulations to Erin who welcomed a baby girl into the world. Daughter Kayley was born on September 10, 2007 and weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces.



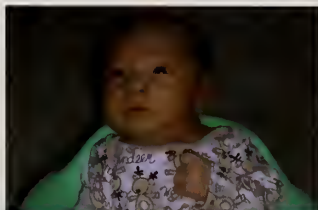
## Kim Chourarath '98

Congratulations to Kim who welcomed a baby girl into the world. Daughter Isabelle Ava Olaus was born on November 29, 2007 and weighed a tiny 6 pounds. Kim had moved to Vancouver, BC but is currently back living in Winnipeg.



## Melanie Hawranik-Sobering '98

"My husband of three years and I welcomed our first child, Liam Cohen into the world on November 20, 2007. He is absolutely wonderful! We are currently living in Dauphin, Manitoba, where there has been a big baby boom recently! We are having a lot of fun getting to know Liam's future classmates and their parents!"



## Courtney (Moir) Morris '98

Courtney and her husband Greg are the proud parents of Brayden James Williams Morris, born on August 22, 2007, weighing 8 lbs, 15 oz and 21 inches long.



## 2000s

### Sarah (Holberg) Chun '00 & Valerie Kellett '00

On September 8, 2007 in Victoria British Columbia, Sarah married Andre Chun. Sarah and Valerie were best friends in Grade 4 at Balmoral Hall School and bonded quickly as they were both the new kids in the class that year. Sarah moved to Victoria in the middle of Grade 5 and Valerie was devastated to lose such a good friend back then! However, they've always kept in touch over the years through letters, e-mails, MSN messenger and occasional visits. Valerie was honoured to be one of Sarah's bridesmaids at her recent wedding.



### Carmen Hui '03

"After high school graduation, I went to the University of Toronto for 2 years and then transferred to Baylor University for their pre-med program and scholarship. I recently graduated from Baylor University in June 2007. I received a B.Sc. Magna Cum Laude."

## Jane Polak Scowcroft '03

Congratulations to Jane who was recently profiled in the *Globe and Mail* as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women under the category of Future Leaders.



## Ashley Rebeck '07

Ashley stopped by the School for a visit in the fall of 2007. Ashley is studying and playing hockey at College of St. Benedict in Minnesota. She is one of only two Canadians on the St. Benedict's hockey team.



## Catherine Simons '06 & Anna Simons '08

Catherine and Anna stopped by BH for a visit on the American Thanksgiving weekend. They were very excited to see some of their past teachers and friends. Catherine is studying at the University of Minnesota and Anna will be graduating from Richland Center High in June and plans to attend the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York. Anna lifeguards, plays the baritone, sings in choir, participates in student council, and is well on her way to earning her pilot's license. Sister Catherine has had the honor of flying with her!





## BH Cover Girls

Congratulations to BH alums **Chantal Kreviazuk '91** and **Sarah Carter '98** who both appeared on the front cover of Chatelaine magazine. Sarah was featured in the October 2007 issue and Chantal was featured in the February 2008 issue.



## Barbara (Blick) Berg '68 & Marcie Hawranik '02

Marcie is currently studying at Syracuse University completing her MA in International Relations. When she found out that she would be taking a 2 week course in New York City, Marcie contacted the Alumnae Office to see if we thought there would be any alums living in New York who may offer her a place to stay. Coincidentally, the alumnae office had just caught up with Barbara Berg at a recent alumnae reception in New York and knew that she lived in the city and had two grown daughters who were away at university. The two alums were put in contact and Barbara was more than happy to help Marcie out.

Marcie spent a lovely two weeks at Barbara's home and was very grateful for Barbara's generous offer. Barb recommends other alums around the world offer their homes to younger alumnae as the experience was rewarding and allowed her to feel reconnected with BH.



## Staff

Junior School teacher **Chloe McComb** delivered a healthy 7 pound 9 oz baby girl, Julia Anna Lazareck, on December 1, 2007.



## Kera Borodkin

Junior School teacher Kera Borodkin delivered a healthy 6 pound 9 oz baby boy, Jonah Ben Shapiro, on October 12, 2007.



## Peace

### Lydia (Klein) Engebretson RIV '38 (Grade 11 graduate of 1937)



Peacefully on July 17, 2007 Lydia passed away. Lydia was an enthusiastic

supporter and guide to her four children who are so grateful for their upbringing in a home filled with great affection, high expectations, trust, humor, and good grammar. She was a wonderful 65-year life partner to husband Don, who considers their time together building the Home and Garden Show business among the happiest of their lives. Lydia was a steadfast Christian Scientist, active for 50 years in her branch church in Excelsior. She was a fierce competitor on the tennis court and an original member of the Minnetonka Racquet Club. A loyal Pi Beta Phi, she and her mother drove from Winnipeg to Asheville, North Carolina for a national convention—in 1938!

Very dear to her heart was her summer home on the family island in Minaki, Ontario. Her children and grandchildren thank her and Don every summer they spend there for the discovery and preservation of this uniquely beautiful place.

### Marge (Proctor) Van Camp RLS '35



As was her way a wonderful soul slipped quietly away on November 26, 2007. She lived a

very long and full life and we are grateful beyond words for all she gave us. Marjorie is survived by Robert Speers Van Camp, her husband of 66 years. She attended the local school and matriculated from Rupert's Land. Marge entered the Winnipeg General Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1940. Marge accepted a position as a public health nurse in Lac La Ronge, SK. Marge was a lifelong member of the Anglican Church, particularly St. George's at

Woodlands. She was very active with the A.C.W. For her, life's priorities were her family, her faith and her community. Marge delighted in the young and followed their exploits with great care and interest. She maintained that care and interest to her very last days.

### Polly (Harris) Riley RIV '40



Polly died peacefully on October 9, 2007. Polly is survived by her devoted

husband of 62 years Derek; three children and their families. Polly was born in Buffalo, New York and moved to Winnipeg with her parents in 1938. She attended Riverbend School and the University of Manitoba, graduating with an Interior Decorating Diploma from the School of Architecture in 1944. Her great beauty, athleticism and endearing personality made her one of the most popular girls on campus. She was chosen Winter Carnival Queen in 1942,

and was at one time University of Manitoba Ladies Tennis Champion and Ladies Golf Champion. Polly devoted her life to her family, her friends, and her community. Her volunteer involvement included the Junior League of Winnipeg, the White Cross Guild of the Winnipeg General Hospital, Middlechurch Home of Winnipeg, and she was always a willing canvasser for a host of deserving charitable institutions. Her family was her pride and joy. Many happy summers were spent at Lake of the Woods from the time her children were babies until adulthood, and many a ski trip was taken in the family station wagon to the Canadian Rockies and to Colorado. A great lady of the highest moral character with a very positive outlook, a keen sense of humor, and an unflinching concern for needs and feelings of others, Miss Polly will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by all who knew and loved her.



# *The Portal* Celebrates 20 Years!

For 20 years, *The Portal* magazine has been publishing bi-annual issues to keep our community informed about what is happening in the halls of Balmoral Hall School and in a global respect, what our alumnae are accomplishing around the world.

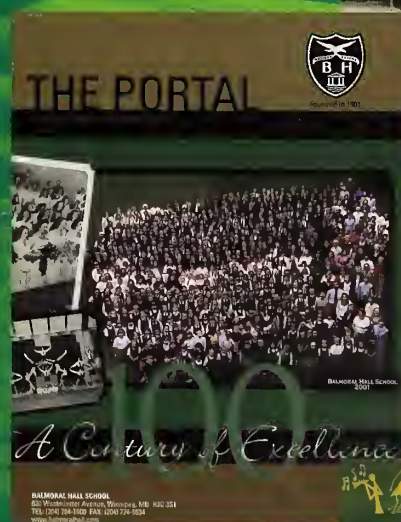
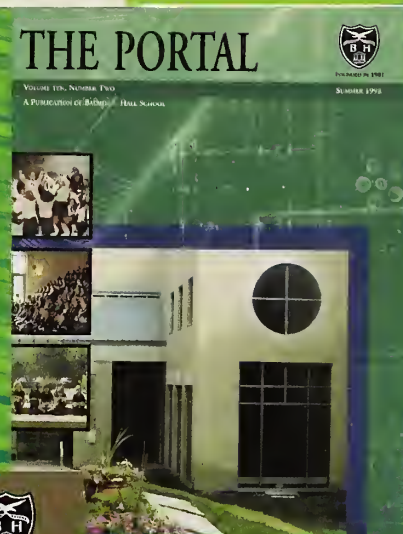
As mentioned in the Editorial of Volume One, Number One:

"Por'tal: n. Gateway, doorway; point of entry: (Webster's).

*The Portal* embodies our pride in the past and our vision for the future: a heritage of strong traditions; confidence in our tomorrows. I am proud to introduce this journal to serve the families, friends and alumnae of Balmoral Hall. We look forward to recording the achievements, events—and the dreams—that make up the Balmoral Hall story."

Although the stories may have changed over the past 20 years, the vision remains the same. We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed reading *The Portal* and will continue to enjoy it as we look towards the future.

Please watch for the Summer 2008 Portal magazine where we will feature a special 20th anniversary article about the magazine.





# Culture Blend

Grade 9 boarding students blend icons and imagery from their home country with that of Canada to illustrate the blending of cultures they experience at BH.



Ji Hyun Kim, Korea



Daniela Gutiérrez Casanova, Mexico



Lucia Berlanga, Mexico



Sophia Martin del Campo Quintero, Mexico



Yeong Jin Kim, Korea

# B

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Balmoral Hall School, a university preparatory school, educates, encourages, and empowers young women who excel academically, possess a passion for learning, set high standards for personal achievement, and who will be self-confident leaders of tomorrow.



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